

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the following paragraph(s) in the specification indicated by page and line number as follows:

On page 2, the paragraph beginning at line 11:

The present invention is directed to the provision of prepaints, which are fluid prepaint compositions or premixed aqueous compositions which can be used to provide a paint mixture of varying finish characteristics at the point of sale. Thus, the merchant distributing the paint composition made from the subject premixed compositions need only maintain inventory of four compositions. The particular compositions which are the subject of the invention exhibit stable characteristics during storage in their respective reservoirs. In other words, the components used to make the prepaint compositions are compatible with each other, or mutually compatible.

On page 6, the paragraph beginning at line number 16:

The pigment-containing constituent or premixed pigment composition preferably contains titanium dioxide finely ground in an amount residing within the range of 40 to 50 percent by weight of the pigment. Pigment concentrations by weight may also be converted to volume based valuations and referenced as pigment volume concentrations ("PVC"). The ground titanium dioxide is a commercially available product used in a wide variety of paint compositions and its preparation techniques are well-known in the industry. The titanium dioxide is added to water which comprises about 25 percent of the resultant pigment composition. During the blending process, a mixture of calcined clay and silica in an amount of 15 percent by weight is added to maintain the titanium dioxide in suspension. A viscosity controlling agent is also added in an amount of about 10 percent of the resultant dispersion or pigment composition.

On page 9, the paragraph beginning at line 5:

The high resin component preferably contains resin in an amount of about 80 percent, water at about 15 percent and a commercially-available coalescent at about 2 percent. However, the percentage of resin by weight can be as high as about 90 percent. The amount of resin and water in the low and high resin compositions can be varied to achieve different finish characteristics. The resin utilized in the paint products formulated from the different combinations and found to provide the desired results is a 100 percent acrylic acrymol resin, such as the resin sold under the trademark 6183 by BASF, also called Acronal Optive 220. This resin is polymeric and inherently produces a latex paint composition. BASF 6183 is an example of a latex polymeric binder. However, it is to be noted that other commercially available resins can be used if desired.

On page 10, the paragraph beginning at line number 1:

The four compositions can also be varied to produce varying quality levels and to produce paint compositions that are suitable for either interior or exterior use and paint compositions having various color bases so that they are suitable for use as different types of colors. As is well known, a plurality of paint compositions or a paint line includes two or more different paint compositions in which the dried films differ materially from each other in at least one measurable property.